

but a *plena* often inspires, a thing which he really does not, but in practice this error is soon discovered, and then necessity compels one to understand what he is doing. — Whatever work the Department should ever assign to me even if I had never done <sup>the like</sup> — I will do it. — O, Perseverance you are a charm.

- Monday 16  
Cold  
night 28° F. Buoy computing occultations, also working them out graphically. — At night got transit fairly well adjusted by star observations.
- Tuesday 17  
Cool, cloudy Buoy computing. Began observing at night but Moon clouded.
- Wednesday 18  
fine Buoy computing. At night observed transits for time.
- Thursday 19  
cloudy  
pleasant Buoy computing &c. Cloudy at night.
- Friday 20  
windy - cloudy  
pleasant Buoy computing, & working out occultations graphically. Late at night it cleared somewhat & I got transits for time. I am anxiously waiting for my new equatorial, so that I can observe the phenomena of Jupiter's satellites. There is a good upright piano in the house, & I occasionally pass some time in a musical soiree.
- Saturday 21  
pleasant Finished my computations of predictions for occultations. In afternoon spent some time with Dr Furber at his office, chatting, smoking & enjoying a bottle of claret. While there Mrs. M. took care to see the Dr. — I retired — ~~When~~ the Dr. recalled me, she remaining for some time & drinking a pot of porter. She is to my mind a woman of ordinary calibre, ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> with some good dash, and copies to higher regions — but also — and will

It is so, that few can decide their worth and place. — The husband is a leading man here, one of the pioneers. — Dr. Huron is a Swiss, educated at Sorbonne, Lausanne & Edinburgh, was as he says till lately connected with Sorbonne University — lecturer & examiner I believe in modern languages — and now in Knautsops — there appears to be a screw loose somewhere. — I think he drinks,

I enjoy a chat with him because he speaks German & can converse else than French talk, which is to me an abomination. — It is a great weakness in society this small talk — its source is mostly attributable to the woman, but before we censure them for this weakness, we should enquire why have they this weakness more marked than men. We may ascribe two reasons therefore, first ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~as~~ <sup>as</sup> woman she is far more confined to her house than her husband, suppressed in household affairs, & hears less of the world, has less opportunity for developing her mind — and hence finds relaxation from her routine of life in making friends — and then — of what shall she speak — perhaps of the latest novel — and then — well — small talk. The second reason, and a grave one because it can be remedied, the first one not well if the husband is not rich, is that the husband takes not enough of interest in his wife as a woman, not as a pet or play thing, to educate her by home chats & conversation, by interesting her in what is going on in the world, by encouraging her in her own sphere, sympathizing with her in any arduous work & endeavor, showing her every kindness & consideration, then assuredly her life flame will burn with renewed vigor, she will value her own sphere more, work will become a work of love — her sphere

April will be raised to a higher plane, the thoughts will reach to a higher realm, and what the heart conceives the lips will utter — and unnecessary small talk shall be no more.

In the evening observed the moon & moon-culminating stars successfully. Jupiter being of low declination & clouds in the horizon were invisible.

Saturday 22 Busy writing. In evening dined at Messrs. Seelys & Spaldings. His wife & sister in law who is with them pleasant I knew when they were girls. — Mr. Lytle & Mr. Wood were there also. J. G. is in charge of the H. B. Co store here, he is a crank — too slow & unsuited for a pushing business. He has faults to find with everybody & everything finding himself. — The sky was completely clouded & no observations possible.

Sunday 23 Quoy Studying etc. — The weather here is something like cloudy, some drops of rain. The Kentons people in regard to mining — always talking of doing something but nothing ever evolves. — Clouds are the greater part of the time hanging about the sky with faces ranging from pale to a Stephen's Blue-black, but the tears shed can be readily counted in the dust etc on the sidewalks. Up the North pier (N. Thompson) rains on the hills are copious, & it is tantalizing to see it to rain there, while here dust holds full sway. — The night was cloudy but I managed to get a set of transits with the culmination of the sun.

Tuesday 24 Fine weather. Early this morning it rained, and more than I can see it rain in Kentons before, altho' that is not saying much for the rain. Its vivifying effect was most marked. The hills are now quite green and the trees (Propleas)